

Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Interior

§ 948.30

FEDERAL REGISTER and the State citations or a brief description of each amendment. The amendments in this

table are listed in order of the date of final publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

Original amendment submission date	Date of final publication	Citation/description
May 20, 1985	July 11, 1985	Transfer of program authority to the Department of Energy (HB 1850).
December 30, 1987 ..	August 26, 1988	Agency structure, public participation procedures, assumption of emergency reclamation program.
September 17, 1991, October 25, 1991.	March 26, 1993	Amendments contained in House Bill 2492; Expanded eligibility criteria; Acid mine drainage treatment and abatement program.
June 27, 2006	January 17, 2007 ...	Amendment includes AML enhancement requirements and other revisions to West Virginia's AMLR Plan dated June 16, 2006.

[62 FR 9958, Mar. 5, 1997, as amended at 72 FR 1937, Jan. 17, 2007]

§ 948.26 Required abandoned mine land reclamation program/plan amendments. [Reserved]

§ 948.30 State-Federal Cooperative Agreement.

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

This is a Cooperative Agreement (Agreement) between the State of West Virginia (State) acting by and through the Governor, and the United States Department of the Interior (Department), acting by and through the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary).

ARTICLE I: INTRODUCTION, PURPOSE AND RESPONSIBLE ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCY

A. *Authority*: This Agreement is authorized by section 523(c) of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (the Federal Act), 30 U.S.C. 1273(c), which allows a State with a permanent regulatory program approved under 30 U.S.C. 1253 to elect to enter into an Agreement for the regulation and control of surface coal mining and reclamation operations on Federal lands within that State. This Agreement provides for such regulation within West Virginia except on lands containing leased Federal coal consistent with the State and Federal Acts, the West Virginia State Program (State program), and the Federal Lands Program (section 523(a) of the Federal Act and 30 CFR parts 740-745).

B. *Purpose*: The purpose of the Agreement is to: (1) Foster State-Federal cooperation in the regulation of surface coal mining and reclamation operations on Federal lands; (2) eliminate unnecessary intergovernmental overlap and duplication; and (3) provide uniform and effective application of the State program on all lands except those containing leased Federal coal in West Virginia.

C. *Responsible Administrative Agencies*: The Department of Natural Resources, Reclamation Division (DNR) is responsible for administering this Agreement on behalf of the

Governor on Federal lands throughout the State. The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) is responsible for administering this Agreement on behalf of the Secretary, in accordance with the regulations in 30 CFR Chapter VII. The Federal lands in West Virginia covered by this Agreement are predominantly those under the jurisdiction of the United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service. It is understood by all parties that the Forest Service or the Federal land management agency, if other than the Forest Service, will continue to govern mining operations on Federal lands covered by this agreement pursuant to laws, regulations, agreements, and restrictions for which the respective agency is responsible. These requirements are in addition to the requirements discussed in this Agreement.

ARTICLE II: EFFECTIVE DATE

After it has been signed by the Governor and the Secretary, the Agreement shall take effect upon publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER as a final rule. This Agreement shall remain in effect until terminated as provided in Article X.

ARTICLE III: DEFINITIONS

Terms and phrases used in this Agreement which are defined in 30 CFR parts 700, 701 and 740, and the State program shall be given the meanings set forth in said definitions.

ARTICLE IV: APPLICABILITY

A. *Applicability to Federal Lands*: In accordance with the Federal Lands Program in 30 CFR part 740, the laws, rules, terms, and conditions of the State program (as conditionally approved effective January 21, 1981, 30 CFR part 948, or as hereinafter amended in accordance with 30 CFR 732.17) are applicable to Federal lands within West Virginia. This Agreement does not apply to operations on Federal lands containing leased Federal coal.

B. *Filing of Appeals*: Orders and decisions issued by DNR in accordance with the State